

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A computer networked compensation survey method comprising:
  - selecting a market against which to be compared;
  - selecting an employment category to be researched;
  - providing market data for the job selected;
  - displaying the market data;
  - allowing a user to perform interpolation or extrapolation based on at least one employment category;
  - enabling the user to project to a future date;
  - providing recommendations about merit increases; and
  - enabling the user to view market data graphically.
2. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 1, wherein performing interpolation/extrapolation involves selecting from the group consisting of sales, number of employees, evaluation points, and combinations thereof.
3. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 1 further comprising simultaneously displaying more than one set of data.
4. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 1, wherein the market is selected from the group consisting of services, manufacturing, pharmaceutical, free zone, commercial, insurance, banking, and others that may appear, including classification of industries by geographical locations, and combinations thereof.
5. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 1, wherein the market to be compared comprises a select group of companies with which to be compared.
6. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 1, wherein the market to be compared is capable of being further

narrowed to the group consisting of sales range, number of employees, evaluation points, and combinations thereof.

7. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 1, wherein the market to be compared is capable of being further narrowed to evaluation points.

8. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 7, further wherein the evaluation points are selected from the group consisting of education, experience, responsibility for operations, responsibility for company assets, responsibility for supervision, working conditions, and combinations thereof.

9. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 1, wherein the employment category is selected from a minimum and a maximum number of sales and the comparison is limited to the companies that are within those parameters.

10. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 1, wherein the employment category is selected from a minimum and a maximum number of employees and the comparison is limited to the companies that are within those parameters.

11. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 1, wherein the employment category is selected from a minimum and a maximum number of evaluation points and the comparison is limited to the companies that are within those parameters.

12. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 1, wherein the data of a company making an inquiry is removable from the market data.

13. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 1, wherein the recommended merit increase is based on the group consisting of a general rate of market increase, a performance level, a salary, and combinations thereof.

14. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 13, wherein the general rate of market increase is based on what the company believes will be its merit increase budget.

15. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 13, further wherein the level of performance is selected from the group consisting of outstanding, very good, satisfactory, sometimes acceptable, and poor.

16. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 13, further wherein the general distribution of salaries in the company is selected from the group consisting of: positive distribution, normal distribution, and negative distribution.

17. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 1, wherein the step of displaying the market data further comprises displaying the data of the company that is using the system, displaying the market averages, displaying the number of participants that provided data for the particular element, and displaying the proportion of company ratios with respect to the market averages.

18. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 17, further wherein the step of displaying the number of participants that provided data for the particular element further includes displaying the number of incumbents affected by that element.

19. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 1, wherein the graphical display is selected from the group consisting of: benefit analyses, monthly salary quartile graphs, total annual remuneration quartile graphs, company versus market (graphical), and company versus market (tabular).

20. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 19, further wherein the graphical display of company versus market (graphical) displays two linear regression lines, one for the company and one for the market.

21. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 19, further wherein the graphical display of company versus market (tabular) displays two regression tables, one for the company and one for the market.

22. A computer networked compensation survey method comprising:

- selecting a market against which to be compared;

- selecting an employment category to be researched;

- providing market data for the job selected;

- displaying the market data;

- allowing a user to perform interpolation or extrapolation based on at least one employment category; and

- simultaneously displaying more than one set of data.

23. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 22 further comprising enabling the user to project to a future date.

24. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 22 further comprising providing recommendations about merit increases.

25. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 22 further comprising enabling the user to view market data graphically.

26. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 22, wherein performing interpolation/extrapolation involves selecting from the group consisting of sales, number of employees, evaluation points, and combinations thereof.

27. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 22, wherein the market to be compared is selected from the group comprising: services, manufacturing, pharmaceutical, free zone, commercial, insurance, banking, and others that may appear, including

classification of industries by geographical locations, and combinations thereof.

28. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 22, wherein the market to be compared comprises a select group of companies with which to be compared.

29. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 22, wherein the market to be compared is capable of being further narrowed to the group consisting of sales range, number of employees, evaluation points, and combinations thereof.

30. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 22, wherein the market to be compared is capable of being further narrowed to evaluation points.

31. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 22, wherein the employment category is selected from a minimum and a maximum number of sales and the comparison is limited to the companies that are within those parameters.

32. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 22, wherein the employment category is selected from a minimum and a maximum number of employees and the comparison is limited to the companies that are within those parameters.

33. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 22, wherein the employment category is selected from a minimum and a maximum number of evaluation points and the comparison is limited to the companies that are within those parameters.

34. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 22, wherein the data of a company making an inquiry is capable of being removed from the market data.

35. A computer networked compensation survey method comprising:

selecting a market against which to be compared;

selecting an employment category to be researched;  
providing market data for the job selected;  
displaying the market data; and  
enabling the user to project to a future date.

36. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 35 further comprising enabling a user to perform interpolation or extrapolation based on at least one employment category.

37. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 35 further comprising providing recommendations about merit increases.

38. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 35 further comprising enabling the user to view market data graphically.

39. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 35, wherein the market to be compared is selected from the group consisting of services, manufacturing, pharmaceutical, free zone, commercial, insurance, banking, and others that may appear, including classification of industries by geographical locations, and combinations thereof.

40. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 35, wherein the market to be compared comprises a select group of companies with which to be compared.

41. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 35, wherein the market to be compared is capable of being further narrowed to the group consisting of sales range, number of employees, evaluation points, and combinations thereof.

42. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 35, wherein the market to be compared is capable of being further narrowed to evaluation points.

43. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 35, wherein the employment category is selected from a minimum and a maximum number of sales and the comparison is limited to the companies that are within those parameters.

44. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 35, wherein the employment category is selected from a minimum number and a maximum number of employees, and the comparison is limited to the companies that are within those parameters.

45. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 35, wherein the employment category is selected from a minimum and a maximum number of evaluation points and the comparison is limited to the companies that are within those parameters.

46. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 35, wherein the data of a company making an inquiry is capable of being removed from the market data.

47. A computer networked compensation survey method comprising:

- selecting a market against which to be compared;
- selecting an employment category to be researched;
- providing market data for the job selected;
- displaying the market data; and
- providing recommendations about merit increases.

48. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 47 further comprising enabling the user to project to a future date.

49. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 47 further comprising allowing a user to perform interpolation or extrapolation based on at least one employment category.

50. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 47 further comprising enabling the user to view market data graphically.

51. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 47, wherein the market to be compared is selected from the group consisting of services, manufacturing, pharmaceutical, free zone, commercial, insurance, banking, and others that may appear, including classification of industries by geographical locations, and combinations thereof.

52. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 47, wherein the market to be compared comprises a select group of companies with which to be compared.

53. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 47, wherein the market to be compared is capable of being further narrowed to the group consisting of sales range, number of employees, evaluation points, and combinations thereof.

54. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 47, wherein the market to be compared is capable of being further narrowed to evaluation points.

55. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 47, wherein the employment category is selected from a minimum and a maximum number of sales and the comparison is limited to the companies that are within those parameters.

56. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 47, wherein the employment category is selected from a minimum and a maximum number of employees and the comparison is limited to the companies that are within those parameters.

57. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 47, wherein the employment category is selected from a minimum and a maximum number of evaluation points and the comparison is limited to the companies that are within those parameters.



58. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 47, wherein the data of a company making an inquiry is capable of being removed from the market data.

59. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 47, wherein the recommended merit increase is based on the group consisting of a general rate of market increase, a performance level, a salary, and combinations thereof.

60. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 59, further wherein the general rate of market increase is based on what the company believes will be its merit increase budget.

61. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 59, further wherein the level of performance is selected from the group consisting of: outstanding, very good, satisfactory, sometimes acceptable and poor.

62. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 59, further wherein the general distribution of salaries in the company is selected from the group consisting of: positive distribution, normal distribution, and negative distribution.

63. A computer networked compensation survey method comprising:

- selecting a market against which to be compared;
- selecting an employment category to be researched;
- providing market data for the job selected;
- displaying the market data; and
- enabling the user to view market data graphically.

64. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 63 further comprising enabling the user to project to a future date.

65. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 63 further comprising providing recommendations about merit increases.

66. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 63 further comprising allowing a user to perform interpolation or extrapolation based on at least one employment category.

67. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 63, wherein the market to be compared is capable of being selected from the group consisting of services, manufacturing, pharmaceutical, free zone, commercial, insurance, banking, and others that may appear, including classification of industries by geographical locations, and combinations thereof.

68. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 63, wherein the market to be compared comprises a select group of companies with which to be compared.

69. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 63, wherein the market to be compared is capable of being further narrowed to the group comprising sales range, number of employees, evaluation points, and combinations thereof.

70. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 63, wherein the employment category is selected from a minimum and a maximum number of sales and the comparison is limited to the companies that are within those parameters.

71. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 63, wherein the employment category is selected from a minimum and a maximum number of employees and the comparison is limited to the companies that are within those parameters.

72. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 63, wherein the employment category is selected from a minimum and a maximum number of evaluation points and the comparison is limited to the companies that are within those parameters.

73. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 63, wherein the data of a company making an inquiry is capable of being removed from the market data.

74. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 63, wherein the step of displaying the market data further comprises displaying the data of the company that is using the system, displaying the market averages, displaying the number of participants that provided data for the particular element, and displaying the proportion of company ratios with respect to the market averages.

75. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 63, wherein the graphical display is selected from the group consisting of benefit analyses, monthly salary quartile graphs, total annual remuneration quartile graphs, company versus market (graphical), company versus market (tabular), and combinations thereof.

76. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 75, further wherein the graphical display of company versus market (graphical) displays two linear regression lines, one for the company and one for the market.

77. The computer networked compensation survey method of claim 75, further wherein the graphical display of company versus market (tabular) displays two regression tables, one for the company and one for the market.